

We claim:

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5 1. A composite nonwoven web comprising:
a nonwoven web having a machine-direction and a cross-direction and
comprising a first segment and a second segment wherein said first and second
segments extend adjacent one another in said machine direction;
said first segments comprising first continuous filaments and wherein said first
continuous filaments comprise an elastomer;
said second segments comprising second continuous filaments and wherein
the second continuous filaments are different from the first continuous filaments; and
wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said second region and said
second continuous filaments proximate said first region are in a confluent
15 relationship with one another and form a unitary nonwoven web.

2. The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein said second continuous
filaments comprise an inelastic polymer.

20 3. The composite nonwoven web of claim 2 wherein the area of said first segment
comprises between about 75% and about 25% of the total area of the composite
nonwoven web.

25 4. The composite nonwoven web of claim 2 wherein said second continuous
filaments comprise an olefin polymer.

5. The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments
comprise an elastic olefin polymer.

30 6. The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments
comprise an elastomer selected from the group consisting of polyesters,
polyurethanes, polystyrenes and polyolefins.

35 7. The composite nonwoven web of claim 4 wherein said first continuous filaments
comprise a blend of a polyolefin and a block copolymer having a styrenic moiety
blocks and elastomeric polymer mid-blocks.

8. The composite nonwoven web of claim 1 wherein said nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbond and meltblown fiber webs.

5 9. The composite nonwoven web of claim 8 further comprising a third region adjacent said first region, said third region comprises third continuous filaments the same as the second continuous filaments and wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said third region and said third continuous filaments proximate said first region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary composite
10 nonwoven web.

10. The composite nonwoven web of claim 9 wherein said first continuous filaments comprise a first olefin polymer and said second and third continuous filaments comprise a second olefin polymer and wherein said first olefin polymer has a higher
15 modulus of elasticity than said second olefin polymer.

11. A composite nonwoven web comprising:
a nonwoven web having a machine-direction and a cross-direction and comprising a first segment and a second segment wherein said first and second
20 segments extend adjacent one another in said machine direction;
said first segments comprising first continuous filaments and wherein said first continuous filaments are hydrophobic;
said second segments comprising second continuous filaments and wherein the second continuous filaments are hydrophilic; and
25 wherein said first continuous filaments proximate said second region and said second continuous filaments proximate said first region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary nonwoven web.

12. The composite nonwoven web of claim 11 wherein said second continuous
30 filaments contain a wetting agent.

13. The composite nonwoven web of claim 12 further comprising a third region and wherein said third region is adjacent said second region, said third region comprises third continuous hydrophobic filaments and wherein said second continuous
35 filaments proximate said third region and said third continuous filaments proximate said second region are in a confluent relationship with one another and form a unitary composite nonwoven web.

14. The composite nonwoven web of claim 13 wherein said second continuous filaments comprise a propylene polymer and an ethoxylated compound and further wherein said first and third continuous filaments consist essentially of a propylene polymer.

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15. The composite nonwoven web of Claim 11 wherein the second region is more porous than said first region.

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